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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 09282.0012-00
SAP Reference No. 2003P00139 US01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Joerg BERINGER) Group Art Unit: 2165
Application No.: 10/663,343) Examiner: Michael J. Hicks
Filed: September 15, 2003) Confirmation No. 1581
For: COLLABORATIVE INFORMATION) Notice of Allowance
SPACES) mailed January 19, 2007

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Notice of Allowability and the Statement of Reasons for Allowance mailed on January 19, 2007. Without withdrawing the allowed claims from issue, Applicant submits these comments for the record.

In the Statement of Reasons for Allowance, the Examiner made characterizations and assertions about the allowed claims and the art of record. Although Applicant agrees with the Examiner's ultimate conclusions that the claims are patentable, Applicant does not necessarily agree with the Examiner's statement and the characterizations and assertions therein.

Specifically, the Examiner paraphrased portions of the allowed claims stating, "Although the concept of creating user profiles is known to the art, the specific concept

of creating a user profile from information derived from the published information and subsequently determining expertise and enabling a search for experts using the profiles is neither taught nor suggested." Applicant respectfully submits that each of the allowed claims is patentable based on the subject matter defined by the claim language and the combination of recitations within the claims, and not by the specific paraphrasing provided by the Examiner.

Furthermore, it is understood that the Examiner's characterizations were for purposes of referring to the prior art, and do not in any way imply that the claims are limited by words not actually present in the claims. Therefore, Applicant declines to subscribe to any statement or characterization contained in the Notice of Allowance and the accompanying Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

Should the Examiner disagree with Applicant's comments on the Statement of Reasons for Allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to resolve such disagreement.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of these Comments, please charge the fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.


By: _____

C. Gregory Gramenopoulos
Reg. No. 36,532

Dated: February 21, 2007